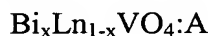


Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] More particularly, the invention provides a novel red phosphor composition as well as its combination with a light emitting semiconductor device (e.g., VCSEL, LED, or LD), preferably a GaN based device, that emits light having a wavelength in the range of 200 nm to 620 nm[[],]. The composition can contain at least one non-red phosphor in addition to the red phosphor, preferably ~~along with~~ green and blue phosphors (such as the ZnS : (Cu⁺, Al³⁺) and BaMgAl₁₀O₁₇ : Eu²⁺ phosphors described above). The red phosphor absorbs the light of a wavelength in the range of 240 nm to 550 nm and emits red light at a wavelength in the range of 580 nm to 700 nm, and is a vanadate combined with yttrium, gadolinium and/or lanthanum and activated with trivalent Eu³⁺, Sm³⁺ and Pr³⁺, or any combination thereof, with or without Tb³⁺ as a co-dopant. When combined with a light emitting semiconductor device, the red phosphor composition of this invention has the general formula:



where $x = 0$ to 1 , Ln is an element selected from the group consisting of Y, La and Gd, and A is an activator selected from Eu³⁺, Sm³⁺ and Pr³⁺, or any combination thereof, with or without Tb³⁺ as a co-dopant. Novel red phosphor compositions are provided when x is greater than 0 and less than 1 , preferably 0.05 to 0.5 .